[Mr. T. Krishna Pillai.]

long it is since repeated representations were made for the construction of a channel in the western side of the Kottukal *ela* in the Neyyattinkara taluk?

Mr. S. Sesha Aiyar (*Deputy Chief Engineer*): Since 1928.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know the action taken by Government on those representations?

Mr. S. Sesha Aiyar: The investigation for the western channel has been completed; the completion of the estimate is kept in abeyance, since we want to watch the working of eastern channel for some time.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: Are the Government aware that the eastern channel, without a corresponding western channel, is useless?

Mr. S. Sesha Aiyar: It is not so; the eastern channel empties itself into the *kayal* and thence into the sea. It has been found, as a result of the department's observation of the eastern channel, that the channel gets silted up frequently. That should be prevented first before any attempt is made to cut the western channel.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: Does the Honourable member make the statement after making a personal inspection of the channel?

Mr. S. Sesha Aiyar: Inspections have been made by the Chief Engineer as also by the Division Officer.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: Is the hon'ble member aware that the representatives of the taluk, in the Legislature, have repeatedly brought it to the notice of Government that the eastern channel by itself, without a corresponding channel on the west, is completely useless?

Mr. S. Sesha Aiyar: Government are perfectly aware of those representations; but, as I said, until we are satisfied that the eastern channel functions properly, we cannot think of any attempt at cutting the western channel. Because, there is every chance of the western channel also frequently getting into disrepair like the eastern channel. Government do not want to risk that.

Police Stations without lock-ups.

2. **Mr. T. Krishna Pillai**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of Police stations in the State without lock-ups; and

(*b*) the number of non-bailable offences committed within the jurisdiction of the Nemom Police station during the years 1112 and 1113?

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Khan Bahadur G. Saiyid Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy (*Inspector-General of Police*) : (*a*) 3.

(*b*) 1112—47,
1113—29.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know the number of under trial prisoners, kept in the Nemom Station, who have escaped ?

Khan Bahadur G. Saiyid Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy : I submit, Sir, that that does not arise from the interpellation.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know whether the Nemom Police station has a lock-up ?

Khan Bahadur G. Saiyid Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy . No.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know the number of under-trial prisoners who have escaped from there ?

President : That does not arise under this question ; honourable member may put another question and get the answer.

Memorial from the toddy and arrack shop contractors of the Kalkulam taluk.

3. **Mr. T. Krishna Pillai** : Will the Government be pleased to State :

(*a*) whether they have received any memorial from the toddy and arrack shop contractors of the Kalkulam taluk ; and

(*b*) if so, what action was taken thereon ?

Mr. M. P. Joseph (*Excise Commissioner*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The memorial has been rejected.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I know the reasons which weighed with the Excise Commissioner in rejecting the memorials

Mr. M. P. Joseph : General economic depression was the main ground urged in the memorial. Since the depression was prevalent even when the contract was entered into, the memorial was rejected.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai : May I ask whether, under similar circumstances, concessions have been granted to any other Government contractor ?

Mr. M. P. Joseph : No, Sir.

Irrigation tanks in the Neyyattinkara and Vilavancod taluks.

4. **Mr. T. Krishna Pillai** : Will the Government be pleased to state the amount, if any, spent for the restoration of irrigation tanks in the Neyyattinkara and Vilavankod taluks for the last three years ?

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